

Building Plans Move Ahead



Architect Adam Weesner reviews building plans with Building Committee members Duane Stutzman (chair) and Cindy Hawkins and Bob Schrock of DJ Construction (see page 2).

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Campaign and Building

Capital Campaign and Building Plans Move Ahead

The Campaign for Bethany Christian Schools has moved into high gear. When the Capital Campaign was launched in May, \$3,664,134 had been pledged toward this effort. As of November 20, over \$4.2 million have been pledged toward Bethany's \$4.35 million goal—96% of target.



Two junior girls, along with 17 other Bethany students, participated in a phonathon to raise money for Bethany's capital campaign. Including a \$100,000 challenge grant students raised over \$304,000.

Bob and Barb Steury, campaign co-chairs stated, "We have been pleased with our tremendous success to date. Over 550 donors have pledged to support the campaign. We have been gratified by the wonderful outpouring of support for this important campaign to build new middle school classrooms and expand the high school."

In spite of limited middle school facilities, Bethany continues to provide a high quality, Christian education. Currently, the middle school is housed in two modular units and on the second floor of the "barn." These limited facilities make it difficult to provide adequately for growing enrollment.

The Capital Campaign is designed to address these burgeoning needs by building a new middle school "wing" with six classrooms. The project will also include building two new high school classrooms and an orchestra classroom, expanding the cafeteria, adding an additional gymnasium for middle school programs, and creating a centralized entrance to make Bethany a much more welcoming place for students and guests. New administrative offices and a media center also will be relocated around this new entrance.

The Campaign for Bethany Christian Schools is scheduled to be completed by

late winter while construction is slated to begin in the spring. Development director Susan Gingerich says, "We have conducted over 40 Leadership Development meetings in the homes and offices of potential supporters. These sessions have been an opportunity to thank God for many blessings over our 50-year history and to discuss how we can expand our mission of Christian education. It is clear that persons are very supportive of Bethany and its mission."

Potential donors are being solicited for pledges payable over a multiple-year period and to continue their support for the annual fund. The annual fund is Bethany's primary mechanism to raise financial support for operating expenses such as salaries, classroom supplies, and maintenance needs.

According to Allan Dueck, principal, "We have been very careful to encourage donors to maintain their usual level of support for the annual fund throughout the period of the Capital Campaign. Both areas are important, but we don't want to conduct a campaign that causes deficits in our ongoing operations. We are grateful that many people have responded by making a sacrificial pledge to the Capital Campaign while continuing to support the annual fund."

Before construction begins in earnest in spring 2004, all alumni, parents, and friends will be given an opportunity to support the campaign. Please consider making a pledge to support the Capital Campaign if you have not done so already. For your convenience, a separate pledge card is enclosed in this issue of the *BCS Bulletin*.

Update on Building Plans

On September 22 Bethany's board approved floor plans for the building project. The Building Committee and Design Build Team are currently reviewing specifications from contractors to refine cost projections. Some site work was done this fall. However, groundbreaking and actual construction will begin in spring 2004.

Bethany Christian Schools BULLETIN

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NEEDED

The 50th Anniversary Planning Committee needs the following from throughout the past 50 years:

Clothing

for fashion review, in particular girls athletic uniforms such as the one piece with bloomers (early 1960s),

Former Vocal Ensembles

interested in performing at the 50th Anniversary celebration, and

Stories

- defining, life-changing moments
- bloopers, a funny thing happened...
- athletics
- chapels
- music
- memorable teachers and classes
- fads and fashions
- I appreciated Bethany because...

Email stories to info@bethanycs.net
or call 574 534-2567

50th Anniversary Chapels

The Chapel Committee has been planning occasional 50th anniversary chapels as a way to share Bethany's past with students.

In September Jim ('71) and Jane (Stoltzfus '71) Buller and John ('81) and Lois (Stoltzfus '80) Mast shared stories of student life from their days at Bethany.

In October three chapels focused on athletics. Dan Bodiker (F'64-) described early athletics at Bethany, including a recounting of the first interscholastic boys basketball game in 1965: erasing a 20-point deficit with five minutes remaining for a 1-point victory over Aubbeenaubbee.

Willie Kanagy (F'89-98) and Jill Landis ('94) discussed the issues and process leading to Bethany changing its mascot from Braves to Bruins in 1993.

Sandy Riegsecker (F'66-68), Betty (Helmuth '77) McFarren, and Linda "Pert" (Miller '68) Shetler shared stories of girls athletics evolving from a social activity in

History Book Design

Layout for Bethany's history book by graphic designer Dee (Helmuth '66) Birkey is nearing completion. Plans are to send the book to the printer in early 2004.

"We are pleased with Dee's ability to incorporate photos, narrative, and vignettes into a very attractive and readable book," says Roy Hartzler (F'76-97), chair of the History Book Committee.

With strong narrative by the six authors, alumni vignettes that reflect the flavor of each period in Bethany's history, and the attractive design, this book should have broad appeal.

Plans are to launch the book at the 50th anniversary celebration, June 11-13, 2004. The committee anticipates taking pre-publication orders in several months, likely in February or March.



Students reenact a 1960 chapel scene during the Fashion Review, which not only demonstrated styles of clothing, but styles of courtship. Over 280 alumni (about 9%) have met their future spouses at Bethany.

the Girls Athletic Association to competition within the IHSAA.

In November Carol (Hartzler '61) Grieser hosted a fashion show, depicting various styles of dress from the first decade.

Other anniversary themes planned include faith (January), facilities (March), people (April), and the future—what Bethany may look like in 2054 (May).

50th
Anniversary

Anniversary
Celebration:
June 11-13

Students Help Expand Maasai School

In the midst of preparing for a building expansion project of their own, students at Bethany Christian Schools have helped make it possible to expand the elementary school in the Maasai village of Kimuka, Kenya.

“It was special to see all the village children attend the dedication, even though they were on holiday,” says junior Lauren Eash who participated in dedication ceremonies for the school expansion in Kimuka on August 19. “They were all dressed up and so excited—it made us feel like this was a really important event.”



Representing Bethany, Lauren Eash ('05) receives a gift at the Kimuka (Kenya) school dedication in August.

Lauren and her family were part of a Goshen College Alumni Study Tour that stopped in Kimuka for the dedication ceremony. Lauren and her siblings Audrey ('97), Dan ('00), and Hannah ('02) represented Bethany for its role in the project.

Kimuka is the native village of 2002 Goshen College graduate Elijah Metekai—the first Maasai to graduate from the college. Goshen College president emeritus Vic Stoltzfus, who was also a part of the study tour, was given the honor of offering the dedication address, which he did in Maa, the native tongue of the Maasai.

Students at Bethany became interested in the Kimuka school project in October 2002 following a chapel presentation by

Metekai. Metekai, who began his formal education in a small dirt-floored village school in Kimuka, shared his dream of building much-needed classrooms for the overcrowded village school of his youth.

Bethany students responded by selecting the Kimuka school as a beneficiary of its annual Pledge-and-Serve Day project in which Bethany students and teachers find individuals to sponsor them in exchange for providing a day of community service to local service and nonprofit organizations. Students raised over \$1,700 for the Kimuka school from their October 2002 Pledge-and-Serve Day.

This year students designated part of their Pledge-and-Serve Day money to support an orphanage in Benin, Africa, and supply HIV/AIDS care kits for Mennonite Central Committee work in Africa.

Calendar

February

- 2-6 MS Spiritual Life Week
- 26-29 HS Drama: *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (see page 5)

March

- 1-5 HS Spiritual Life Week
- 12-13 Mennonite Regional Orchestra Festival at Bethany
- 19-20 Spring Fun Fest (see page 5)

April

- 5-9 Spring Break (offices closed)
- 15-19 MSEC Choir Festival at Eastern Mennonite, Harrisonburg, Va.
- 23 Fish Fry

Admissions Calendar

Open House: January 27, 3:30-7:00 p.m. Families can drop in for a tour and to learn more about Bethany.

Parent Visit Day: February 9, 9 a.m. to noon. Drop in for a tour and chapel and to see classes in session.

Student Visitors' Days: February 2, 16, and March 1. Shadow a Bethany student for a day. Pre-registration required.

New Employees

Ritch Hochstetler will teach Bible 9 during the second semester. Ritch holds an M.A. in theology/youth ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary. He served as youth pastor at East Goshen



Mennonite Church in the 1980's and more recently at Hesston Mennonite Church. Ritch currently serves as director of Oakwood Leadership Academy in Syracuse. He and his wife Char are members of East Goshen Mennonite Church. Their son Austin is a sophomore at Bethany.

Mafra Maust joins the kitchen staff for the second semester. Mafra, who holds an



A.A. from Hesston College, has operated her own business as seamstress for the past six years. She is a member of Yellow Creek Mennonite Church, where she serves as song leader

and pianist and on occasion as conference delegate. She and her husband Rene ('80) have three daughters: Laura ('04), Janell ('07), and Valerie (grade 5).

Fun Fest: March 19-20

Although it's three months away, parents are already busy planning for the eleventh annual spring Fun Fest on March 19 and 20. The Fun Fest is a school fundraiser for tuition assistance. The Fun Fest committee hopes to net \$77,000.

Friday evening activities include auctions, a chicken barbeque, a bake sale, and a carnival for children. A pancake and sausage breakfast will take place in the gym Saturday morning.



Auction items (quilts, new and used items, silent auction) will be published in a catalogue available prior to the Fun Fest.

Plan now to participate in this fundraising event as a donor or buyer—everyone is welcome. Donations needed include baked goods, auction items, money to cover expenses, and volunteer labor.

Student Computers

Technology director Peter Shetler reports that Bethany provides 112 computers for student use in classrooms, library, and computer lab—a ratio of slightly more than one computer for every three students.



Donna Smucker and son J. D. Smucker (F'87-) participate in a community quilt-making project for the 2003 Fun Fest. Community quilt projects are again available for volunteers at Bethany and the Old Bag Factory. For more information regarding quilting hours, call the school office at 574 534-2567.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN,
CHARLIE BROWN
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

February 26-29

Tickets on sale beginning Feb. 9.
Adults: \$6.50 • Students: \$4

Alumni News

Births

Randy Hertzler ('85) and wife Jill, Seattle, Wash., a daughter, Lucy Rabbino, on October 15.

Barb (Yoder '85) Stutzman and husband Rod, Nairobi, Kenya, a son, Levi Leon, on November 20.

Charlotte (Gascho '87) Hunsberger and husband Steven, Telford, Pa., a son, Ian James, on September 24.

Rick Yoder ('88) and wife Shali, Goshen, a daughter, Kylie Ann, on November 16.

Hank Willems ('89) and wife Cori, Fort Wayne, Ind., a son, Beckham, on August 22.

Melinda (Birky '90) Brown and husband Cory, Shippshewana, Ind., a son, Evan Bruce, on October 7.

Eric Yordy ('90) and wife Kristy, Goshen, a daughter, Meiling Ann Zhang, born December 21, 2002, in China and received for adoption September 14, and daughter Sophia Marie born September 26.

Michele (Bontrager '91) Showalter and husband Brian, Olathe, Kans., a daughter, Kenda Leigh, on August 5.

Tonya (Hunsberger '92) Gaby and husband Chris, White Pigeon, Mich, a son, Jackson Ray, on October 29.

Steve Sauder ('92) and wife Gretchen, Lititz, Pa., a daughter, Katie Ann, on November 9.

Mike Yordy ('92) and wife Laura, Onekama, Mich., a daughter, Alexa Kay, on November 1.

Leah (Butler '97N) Phillips and husband David, Goshen, a son, Conner James, on October 17.

Traci (Maust '97) Vermilion and husband Chris, Fishers, Ind., a daughter, Emma Elizabeth, on October 7.

Julie (Yoder '99) Dick and husband Tim, Goshen, a son, Cameron James, on August 2.

Ryan Springer (F'00-02) and wife Nisha, Elkhart, Ind., a son, Rohan David, on August 24.

Deaths

Ron Stutzman ('60), Goshen, on October 17. He is survived by his wife **Phyllis (Dintaman '60)** and children **Ben ('86)**, **Rebekah ('87)**, and **Hannah ('97)**.

Marriages

Tammy Sawatzky ('94) and Reynold Friesen, Waterloo, Ont., on September 27. Tammy is art director for *Canadian Mennonite*.

Lindsay Rosenogle ('00) and Robert Brown on October 25.

Notes

Ida Martin ('65), Nappanee, Ind., is on furlough from Impact North Ministries in Red Lake, Ont.

Donna (Zehr '67) Conrad and her husband, Greg, have been serving at the American Indian Christian Mission (AICM) in Show Low, Ariz., for the past 13 years. AICM is a Christian boarding school that ministers to Navajo and Apache children in grades K-8. Donna is the school secretary and Greg teaches on the junior high level.

Owen Weaver ('68), Goshen, received Indiana Main Street Council's 2003 Adaptive Re-use award for his role in redeveloping downtown Goshen.

James Krabill ('69) was ordained on October 19 at Prairie Street Mennonite Church in Elkhart for his work as senior executive of Mennonite Mission Network's Global Ministries division.

Rosie (Glick '73) Eash and husband Donald, Goshen, own a 35-acre farm with about 90 horses and ten employees. They raise colts, break them, and

Alumni:

Send your news for inclusion in the *BCS Bulletin* to info@bethanycs.net.

Have you visited Bethany's website to check for current news, register on the Alumni Locator, or send us your news? See www.bethanycs.net.



Bethany alumni involved in the cast, crew, or staging of Goshen College's fall drama *You Can't Take It With You* included (l to r): (front) Joe Hartman ('03N), Abby Nafziger ('02), Erin Bontrager ('00), Kyle Reinford ('02); (back) Derek Bontreger ('00), Sarah E. Miller ('01), Ben Friesen ('01), and Zac Albrecht ('02). Also participating, but not pictured, were Sophie Charles ('00), Dan Horst ('01), and Eric Meyer ('00).

train them to race. They race across the country, but mostly in Indiana and Illinois.

Bonita (Kreider '73) Nussbaum and her husband Dean have lived the past 25 years in Eugene, Ore., where she teaches high school and he is an assistant principal. They love to travel, hike, walk the beach, read, and of course work with kids. They have two teenage sons.

Cindi (Slabaugh '73) Dixon and her husband Brad moved to Middlebury, Ind., in June after living 26 years in Virginia. He works for DJ Construction in Goshen. They have two college-aged daughters.

Jerry ('73) and Jeanette (Slagel '73) Slabaugh, Goshen, have two adult children. Jerry, a facilities engineer, is back in school part-time completing a business degree. Jeanette is a senior contract analyst for Mennonite Mutual Aid. They enjoy antiques, refinishing furniture, and flower gardening.

Sarah (Conrad '73) Yoder and her husband Tim, Archbold, Ohio, are the parents of four children. Currently a stay-at-home mother, she has worked various jobs outside the home including at a Methodist church and a library.

Linda (Eckert '81) Casper resides in San Jose, Calif., where her husband Travis is completing a master's degree. They hope to return to Indiana for his doctoral studies.

Lynn (Borntreger '88) Brubaker, her husband Martin, and daughters Scout and Sawyer, moved to Lebanon, Ore., in July. Lynn works at Linn Benton Community College as a program assistant with the JOBS program that helps people on welfare get back into the workforce.

John Troyer ('88) was ordained for pastoral ministry on September 28 at Locust Grove Mennonite Church in Burr Oak, Mich.

Eric Horst ('89) was ordained for pastoral ministry on September 28 at Swamp Mennonite Church in Quakertown, Pa.

Sallie Landis ('99) graduated from Hesston College in 2001 and Goshen College in April 2003. This summer she began an assignment with Mennonite Voluntary Service in community education and outreach for Ten Thousand Villages in Seattle, Wash.



June Miller ('99) graduated from Goshen College in April 2003. This summer she began an assignment with Mennonite Voluntary Service in health outreach for Children's Outreach Project in Baltimore, Md.



Erin Wentorf ('99) graduated from Eastern Mennonite University in spring 2003. She began an assignment this summer with Mennonite Central Committee's SALT program in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Her assignment includes working for Committee for the Upliftment of the Mentally Ill.

Chris Kingsley ('00), a Goshen College senior Bible and religion major, received a Barnabas Servant Leadership Award for his involvement with leading the baseball team's Bible study, leading church music, and participating in the Ministry Inquiry Program.

Liz Collins ('02N), Goshen, is Sweden team leader for Reaching and Discipling (RAD), a program affiliated with Mennonite Mission Network. RAD allows young adults a short-term opportunity of intense discipleship training followed by a six- to eight-month outreach assignment.

Jenna Liechty ('03), Bluffton College, was named Freshman of the Year in women's tennis for the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference

Class Reunions

Class reunions held in conjunction with Bethany's 50th anniversary celebration on June 12, 2004, include:

- 1959
- 1964
- 1965
- 1969
- 1974
- 1975
- 1979
- 1984
- 1985
- 1988
- 1989
- 1994
- 1999

For contact info, see the alumni reunion page at www.bethanycs.net or call the Alumni Office at 574 537-9100.



Class of '58 met for its 45-year reunion on September 27. Following an afternoon tour of Bethany the group met at Pleasant View Mennonite Church for dinner, sharing, singing, and reading letters from absent classmates. As this class was the first ninth grade class when Bethany opened in 1954, asterisks designate reunion attenders who attended Bethany all four years: (front) *Ruthann Gardner Miller, *Marcile Kauffman Miller, *Judy Slabaugh Hochstedler, Louise Troyer Beachy, *Carolyn Hershberger Miller, *Pauline Kaufman Borntreger, *Alice Yoder Risser, Ruby Bontrager Bontrager, *Ruby Bontrager Wilden, Rosa Yoder Shetler, Mary Schrag Kauffman; (back) Phil Dintaman, *Paul Borntreger, Steve Kauffman, *Dewayne Carpenter, Royal Bauer (faculty advisor), Marvin Nafziger (faculty advisor), *David Horst, Jerry Burrows, Larry Weldy, Emerson Ropp, *Ned Miller, David Ray Miller, Larry Welty.

From
the
Principal
Allan Dueck



To reflect on the nature of teaching and learning energizes teachers—especially as a break from their intense daily focus on lessons, grading, and co-curricular supervision. On October 2-4 Bethany’s faculty members had just such an opportunity to reflect as they joined some 600 teachers and administrators from Mennonite schools across North America at the Mennonite Educators’ Conference.

For many, the highlight of the conference came in keynote speaker Parker Palmer’s stories and reflections on the nature of teaching and learning. A well-known Quaker author and educational theorist, Palmer believes that effective teaching is less the result of particular techniques and much more a reflection of the personhood of teachers. Great teachers, he asserted, are in touch with their true selves, which are gifts of God. To connect with students, teachers must manifest their inner selves in their work.

Palmer told of research in which he had asked students to describe “bad teachers.” With profound simplicity one young student said, such a teacher’s “words float in front of his face like balloons in cartoons.” Palmer noted that, by contrast, great teachers have the capacity for *connectedness*. No

matter what techniques they use, master teachers have the capacity “to build a bridge of trust across the chasm of fear,” a bridge that allows fearful young people to cross the chasm to learn. Teachers need to know themselves and allow their true selves to be present with students.

Palmer highlighted four characteristics of master teachers. They

- present information not as isolated bits of data but within a meaningful pattern;
- recognize that emotions are tied with cognition, or knowing, and that students learn better when they can see how material relates to their lives;
- draw on the special gifts and insights of everyone in a class because “all of us thinking together are smarter than all of us thinking alone”; and
- exude a passion for the subject, finding creative ways to bring it to life—to make it vivid and compelling.

Today, as throughout its 50 years, Bethany is blessed with fine teachers who often demonstrate in striking ways these four threads of excellent teaching. Indeed, the high quality of a Bethany education owes much to the *connectedness of teacher with student*.

Bethany Christian Schools

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